

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1303  
By McMillan

A RESOLUTION to recognize Elaine B. Smith on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who during their chosen careers demonstrated a high degree of professional and personal excellence and performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Elaine B. Smith is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 50 years in the banking field; and

WHEREAS, born August 3, 1936 to Clarence J. and Agnes Tidwell Biter, Elaine grew up with sisters Lometa and Peggy and brother Denzil; she graduated from Montgomery Central High School in Cunningham, Tennessee in 1954 and later attended a number of professional seminars, courses and schools; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Biter married Billy R. Smith on February 23, 1957, and this union produced two accomplished daughters: Lesa, now married to David C. Goder, and Wendy, now married to Joe Weis; Mrs. Smith is the loving grandmother of Mathew Smith Goder and Megan Layne Goder; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith began her exemplary career in banking in 1954 at the Northern Bank of Tennessee as an Executive Secretary; she rapidly ascended to ever higher positions at Northern Bank of Tennessee as her capabilities and talents became apparent, ultimately serving in the positions of Assistant Vice President and Vice President; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Elaine B. Smith accepted a position as Vice President with First American National Bank, in which position she served with the great acumen and ability until her departure in 1993; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1993, Elaine B. Smith accepted a position at Farmers and Merchants Bank, where she rose through the ranks to serve as the Director of Human Resources, Assistant Vice President and Director of Human Resources, and Vice President and Director of Human Resources; throughout her exemplary tenure there, Mrs. Smith has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, always seeking to improve upon her already considerable skills, Mrs. Smith has attended several professional seminars and schools; a graduate of Leadership Clarksville, Class of 1996, she attended the National School of Human Resources in Boulder, Colorado and has taken extensive American Institute of Banking courses; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith lends her capable leadership skills to many professional organizations, including the National Association of Bank Women, serving as President of the Middle Tennessee Group, and the Clarksville Chapter of NSA, which she has also served ably as President; and

WHEREAS, an avid volunteer and civic activist, Elaine Smith devotes many hours of her spare time to a number of worthy community organizations, including the Clarksville Chamber of Commerce; the Middle Tennessee Heart Association, which she has served as a Board Member; the American Heart Association, Montgomery County Unit, which she has served as a Board Member and Memorial Chairman; the American Cancer Society, which she has served as a Board Member, Treasurer, and Memorial Chairman; the Altrusa Club of Clarksville, which she has served as a Board Member; and the United Way; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Smith's outstanding success as a career professional and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Elaine B. Smith for 50 years of exemplary service in the banking industry and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.